GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:41
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004
COMPLAINTS REGARDING RURAL PUBLIC TELEPHONE PLAN
Ahmad Dr. Shakeel

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has received complaints regarding rural public telephone plan in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last one year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)
(a) Yes, Sir.
(b) Complaints were received for not providing Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in uncovered villages of Rajasthan and regarding faulty MARR VPTs. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has already provided VPTs of its share in the Rajasthan Circle. The balance VPTs were to be provided by Private Basic Service Operators (PBSOs).
(c) Telecom facilities to these recently allotted uncovered villages to BSNL on the basis of tender is scheduled to be provided over a span of three years i.e. by Novmber, 2007 as per tender terms finilized by the office of Administrator of Universal Service Fund. It is planned to replace all MARR based VPTs in the Circle by Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology and Land Line technology. 3899 MARR VPTs have already been replaced upto 31.10.2004 and all the balance MARR VPTs are planned to be replaced by June, 2006.